

## Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County Online Resources

The Library has a wide variety of online resources available to help students:

### 1. Homework Chat

Students can use Homework Chat (<<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/resources/>>) to work with tutors or librarians on specific homework problems and questions. Homework Chat is for students in grades 3-12 and is available every day from 2:00-11:00 p.m.

### 2. Ask a Librarian

Ask a Librarian (<<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/services/askalibrarian.asp>>) services are available 24/7.

### 3. Text a Librarian

Students can use a cell phone or handheld device to text a question (<<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/services/textalibrarian.html>>).

To use the service, start the body of the text with the keyword askus, followed by a space, followed by your question. (For example, askus what are 3 great books on the civil war?). Send your text to 66746.

### 4. Research Databases

The Library has purchased subscriptions to Research Databases (<<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/resources/research.asp>>) so students...teachers...virtually anyone...can access accurate, objective, and current information at any time from anywhere AT NO CHARGE! All it takes is a Library card.

A list of the Library's favorite databases is attached.

If you can't find what you're looking for, call or stop by your local Library. One of the staff members will be happy to assist you.

# How to access the Library's Collection of Research Databases



## Step 1

From the Library's Homepage

(<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/default.aspx>),

click on the Research and Homework

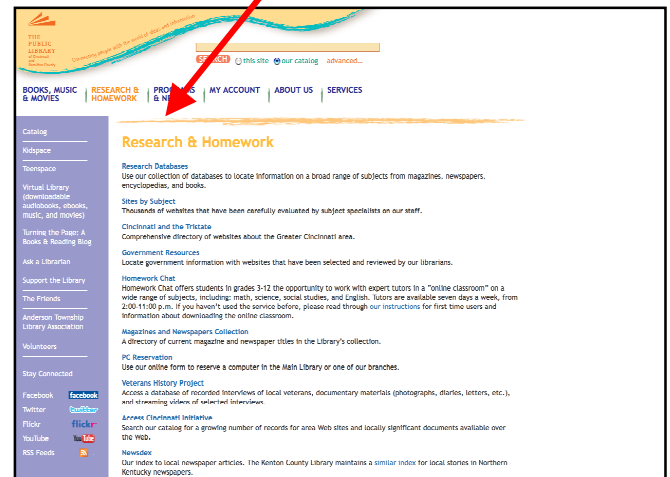
(<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/resources/>) link.



## Step 2

Next, select the Research Databases

(<http://www.cincinnati-library.org/resources/research.asp>) link.



## Why use a database instead of Google?

Information in databases has been reviewed and edited by experts and comes from reliable, authoritative sources. Using a database instead of Google saves you time and gives you results that are. And guess what? There's no charge for using them!

You can also find links to the Research Databases from Teenspace (<http://teenspace.cincinnati-library.org/>) and Kidspace (<http://kidspace.cincinnati-library.org/>).

## Some of our favorite research databases

- **The Literature Resource Center** is a good source for information on writers, poets, essayists, journalists, and playwrights, including biographical information and critical overviews of their work.
- Use **ProQuest** or **MAS Ultra-School Edition** to access full-text articles from thousands of well-known magazines and newspapers.
- Consult the **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center** when you're looking for statistics, magazine and newspaper articles, images, and web resources about social issues such as euthanasia, censorship, and capital punishment.
- **The History Resource Center** includes thousands of primary source documents (letters, speeches, legislative acts, etc.), magazine articles, digitized maps, and photographs.
- **Facts on File Science Online** can be searched by subject area (biology, chemistry, earth science, weather, etc.) or type of resource (printable diagrams, science experiments and activities, videos, etc.).
- The **LearningExpress Library** has a large collection of online practice tests and tutorials for elementary, middle, and high school students.
- **Kids InfoBits** is designed to help elementary school students with research. It includes magazine and newspaper articles on the arts, science, people, government, history, and sports. Articles are labeled "easy" or "more difficult" to read.
- **CultureGrams** offers reports about the history, daily life, and customs of world cultures. Reports usually include a regional overview, maps, statistics, flags, graphs and tables, and recipes.